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previously examined," but it is impracticable. "We can not find any system of distribution which completely satisfies our idea of justice, or those that we can find are not applicable." "There is only one principle which regulates the distribution of wealth in present society; this is private property."

The institution of private property is justified on principles rather legal than philosophical. The nationalization of land is opposed more because of its impracticability than because of its theoretical unsoundness in principle. The evils of private ownership of land, the author holds, may be overcome by proper organization. Among the provisions suggested are the assignment of a maximum and minimum amount that can be owned by any one man; compulsory exchange of small portions under certain conditions, and homestead laws.

The criticism of existing theories of wages is especially satisfactory. Neither standard of living, nor number of laborers, nor productivity of labor alone determines wages in actual society. "The price of manual labor must depend both on its utility and on its rarity."

The treatise reflects the French industrial system. Of the book, Professor J. B. Clark says: "Its progressive spirit will make it everywhere welcome, and its appreciative attitude toward the older schools of thought will, at the same time, make it everywhere useful. . . . Its conspicuous quality is a wisdom that is not often combined with so much of brilliancy." Not the least of its merits is the fact that its very clearness of expression and analysis emphasize the weakness of the logic of certain economic theories.

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STUDIES IN STATISTICS, SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND MEDICAL. By GEORGE BLUNDELL LONGSTAFF. With maps and diagrams. Pp. xvi, 455. London: Edward Stanford. 1891.

This volume deserves a more prompt recognition than I have been able to give in the ANNALS, and yet excellent

works of the character of the one under consideration are not so numerous that any particular contribution is likely to pass out of notice on account of the appearance of a fresher and more valuable treatise. During the past ten years Dr. Longstaff has been a frequent contributor to the proceedings of the London Statistical Society, and several of the papers presented to that society are included in this volume. This is practically made up of two parts. The first portion treats of the most important changes which have taken place in the population of England, the British colonies, and the United States; while the second is concerned with medical statistics, as indicated by titles of chapters such as: "Geographical distribution of diphtheria;" "Calculation of the probability of the accidental and fatal incidence of phthisis upon husband and wife;" "Hydrophobia statistics."

The first three chapters are of an introductory character, explaining the proper significance of the terms birth, death, and marriage rate. Special reference is made at this point to the common fallacy that a high death-rate is proof of sanitary defects. This elementary introduction is followed by chapters treating, with considerable statistical detail and keen analysis, the growth of population in the countries referred to above. The author is skilful in the manipulation of official returns, so as to get fresh and novel results. Of this nature, for example, is the table, on page 24, showing the daily increase of the people of England and Wales and their ultimate destination, and also the table, on page 41, illustrating the migrations between the several portions of the United Kingdom in decades. The course of migration in particular attracts the author to ingenious combinations, and, by a diagram, the correspondence between the curve of emigration to the United States and the curve of imports and exports of that country is disclosed. "A slight improvement in trade appears to immediately stimulate emigration from this country [Great Britain] to a disproportionate degree."

Dr. Longstaff takes an altogether too gloomy view of the negro question in the United States. He is misled by the percentage increase of the colored population between 1870 and 1880, which appears by the census to be about 35 per cent. At the time, however, the census office questioned the validity of this percentage as a true measure, as it was thought that the census of 1870 under-estimated the colored population. The census of 1890 confirms this conclusion. There is no reason to fear that the colored population is growing at a more rapid rate than the white population.

One of the most interesting and original analyses in the book is that given on page 111, where the author estimates the ultimate elements of the American population. He concludes that about 62 per cent. of the inhabitants of the United States are of Anglo-American stock, about 10 per cent. Irish, 10 per cent. German, 13 per cent. African, and 5 per cent. a mixture of nearly every European race. Furthermore, a large portion of the persons of German, Dutch, or Irish descent have been as completely Americanized as the Huguenots in England have been Anglicized.

Two chapters are devoted to the growth of cities, and of London in particular, and a following one to the food supply of European countries. Among the medical contributions published in this volume, perhaps the one which would attract the most general interest in this country is the essay on statistics of hydrophobia. In the United States it is difficult to get statistics on this subject. A large portion of the community is constantly taught that there is no such disease as hydrophobia, and would, doubtless, be astonished to know of an elaborate study based upon more than a thousand cases. For this study, the figures of forty years, 1849-1888, are available. Of the total number of deaths, about one-fifth were females; and the greatest relative, as well as absolute, mortality occurs between the ages of five and ten years. During the latter half of the period under observation, this disease has been five times as fatal, relatively to the numbers living, as it was during the first half.

The volume is well illustrated and fortified by maps and diagrams—some thirty in number. The paper and type are so attractive that every inducement is offered to give one's self up to the enjoyment of statistical data; and rarely are vital statistics handled so deftly that even the registration report becomes transformed into a living book of interest. This work certainly ought to stimulate Americans to secure a better registration of vital statistics than now exists in a large part of their country. With the exception of four or five New England States, there is no commonwealth which can furnish reliable material for studies such as Dr. Longstaff has based upon the Reports of the Registrar-General. The fact that even four of our states are fairly successful is proof that more can be done.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF VALUE ON THE LINES OF MENGER, WIESER AND BÖHM-BAWERK. By WILLIAM SMART, Lecturer on Political Economy in Queen Margaret College, Glasgow. Pp. 83. London: Macmillan & Co., 1891.

Scarcely has the historical school fought its way to prominence and even to dominance, when rumors thicken of a new analytic deductive, or psychological school that threatens to carry everything before it. The way in which, from another direction, the thought that Jevons threw out several years ago has been reached and developed by a brilliant group of Austrian economists, has hitherto been veiled from the ordinary student by the difficulties of a foreign and highly technical language. The little book Prof. Smart has given us is an effort to lift the veil and to communicate to English readers the chief results the new school has reached in their analysis of the value concept.

The veriest fault-finder could find nothing but praise for this work. To most, the matter will prove new, true and important. For the first time, the fundamental doctrines of the new school are placed before us in book form. Though